

Message Text

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50

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 DPW-01

OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 /171 W

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O P 121725Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4574

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1623

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, DA

SUBJECT: GENEVA CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR

REF: (A) GENEVA 1566; (B) GENEVA 1591; (C) STATE 48509

1. REFTELS, BEING REPEATED TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN, DESCRIBE ATTEMPT TO EXPAND SCOPE OF PROTOCOL BEING DRAFTED IN SUBJECT CONFERENCE CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS ALSO TO STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION. DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS APPROACH SET FORTH REFTELS.

2. DANISH DEL TELLS US THEY HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSTAIN ON THIS AMENDMENT. DEL HAD RECOMMENDED "NO" VOTE, BUT THINK POLITICAL SECTIONS OF FOREIGN MINISTRY INSISTED ON ABSTENTION. FYI: THEY THOUGHT A HIGH LEVEL US APPROACH MIGHT CHANGE DANISH POSITION TO "NO". END FYI.

3. WE RECOMMEND THAT DEPT REQUEST AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN TO MAKE HIGH LEVEL APPROACH USING ARGUMENTS SET FORTH REFTELS, URGING DANES TO OPPOSE AMENDMENT.

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4. VOTE MAY OCCUR IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS IN COMMITTEE I

OF CONFERENCE, BUT ISSUE IS OF LONG-TERM IMPORTANCE,
AND CRITICAL VOTE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE TAKEN UNTIL
NEXT YEAR'S SESSION IN PLENARY, WHERE WE SHALL NEED
AT LEAST A BLOCKING THIRD ON THIS PROPOSAL. THUS,
ALTHOUGH WE NEED QUICK ACTION FROM COPENHAGEN, WE ALSO
NEED LASTING DECISION TO MOVE DANISH GOVERNMENT IN RIGHT
DIRECTION.

5. FYI. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL WEO COUNTRIES
EXCEPT NORWAY AND AUSTRALIA OPPOSE AMENDMENT. END FYI.
DALE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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